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Newspapers as indicated

LAND REFORM PROGRESS STEADY IN NEWLY LIBERATED AREAS;
SHORTCOMINGS IN PROGRAM NOTED IN SOME AREAS

[Approximately 1,500,000,000 mou (1 mou equals 1/6 acre) of land have been distributed among 85 million farmers in newly liberated areas of China during 1949 - 1950]

Land reform was completed in over 6/7 of the area in which it was undertaken in the Northwest during the winter of 1950 - 1951. Shensi, Shansi, Kansu, and Ningxia provinces were involved. The members of the landless and nearly landless classes received about 3 mou apiece in a total distribution of more than one million mou.

Southwest authorities have ordered completion of land reform in from 1/4 to 1/3 of the Southwest during 1951. Throughout the Southwest, landlords constituting from 8 to 10 percent of the population control from 65 to 75 percent of the land. Eight or more types of rent procedures give them many ways of mulcting the people. The rent reduction and rent deposit refund program carried out so far this year has resulted in the recovery of 6,500,000,000 catties of grain for the poor farmers of the Southwest.

In carrying out land-reform in parts of Kwangtung a number of faulty procedures have been revealed. They are due principally to the failure of cadres to realize the power of the masses when properly aroused to hate the landlord class. Some cadres see the rent reduction program only as a relief measure rather than a basic step in the total program.

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SOUTHWEST BEGINS SECOND ROUND OF LAND REFORM -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 4 Jul 51

Chungking, 3 July (Hsin-hua) -- In mid-June, land reform began in a second group of areas in the Southwest. Before the autumn harvest, 52 hsien in Szechwan, 43 in Kweichow, 10 in Sikang, and 3 in Yunnan will see land reform completed. The combined rural population of these areas is over 30 million. Over 600 cadres from Peiping are taking part in this campaign.

INSPECTION REVEALS FAULTS IN LAND-REFORM PROGRAM -- Canton. Nan-fang Jih-pao, 7 Jul 51

An inspection team from higher party levels sent to Weng-yuan Hsien in Kwangtung to inspect the progress of the rent reduction program discovered the following erroneous practices:

In general the cadres were carrying most of the burden of securing rent refunds from landlords themselves, using the poor farmers only as helpers. They used peaceful methods. Although the result of securing over 912,464 catties of grain and some other goods seemed economically impressive, the following faults are manifest:

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1. The class hatred of the poor farmers has not been aroused to the desired point by struggle; class consciousness is still low. The poor people have been allowed to hold the opinion that in their neighborhood there are three classes of landlords, wicked, enlightened, and good. They have been allowed to continue to believe that, having suppressed the wicked landlords, the others do not matter.

2. Leadership among the poor and hired farmers has not been developed. Former struggle corps have not been recruited as required. Reliance has been placed on middle-class farmer leadership. In the resulting distribution of rent reduction grants, middle-class farmers each took as much as 1,300 catties and the poor and hired farmers only 300 catties each. In some cases, the landlords were even bold enough to compel the peasants to line up for a check on the amount of grain they were taking away.

3. Basic organizational plans have been seriously neglected. The largest part of the fruits of the struggle have not reached the poor and hired farmers.

4. In some areas the landlords are still in control and in some places village leaders have wasted or embezzled the rent reduction grain received. In one place out of 25,000 catties collected, only 1,000 catties reached the poor peasants.

5. Some cadres despise the poor farmers as too backward to exercise leadership. They regard even middle-class or wealthy farmers as being willing to help as better material for campaign leadership, not recognizing that such persons may likely have ulterior motives.

6. Some cadre leaders think of the rent reduction and rent deposit refund campaign as simply a relief campaign for the poor farmers. They fail to realize that it is a basic step toward the completion of the total land-reform program.

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